

**Jorge COSTA CLAVER**  
Applicant or Patentee: \_\_\_\_\_ Attorney's Docket No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Serial or Patent No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Filed or Issued: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: **AUTOALIGNING COUPLING DEVICE**

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS  
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR)**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office regarding the invention entitled \_\_\_\_\_ described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith  
☐ application serial no. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ patent number \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who would not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:\*

- ☒ No such person, concern, or organization  
☐ Persons, concerns or organizations listed below\*

\*NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b) )

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

**Jorge COSTA CLAVER**

NAME OF INVENTOR	NAME OF INVENTOR	NAME OF INVENTOR
<i>Jorge Costa Claver</i>		
Signature of Inventor	Signature of Inventor	Signature of Inventor

**July 6, 2004**

Date	Date	Date
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**COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**  
(Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**AUTOALIGNING COUPLING DEVICE**

the specification of which (check only one item below):

☐ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed as United States application

Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

on \_\_\_\_\_

and was amended

on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

☒ was filed as PCT international application

Number PCT/ES02/00516

on 7 November 2002

and was amended under PCT Article 19

on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

**PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119:**

COUNTRY (if PCT, indicate "PCT")	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119
Spain	U200200101	17 January 2002	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
PCT	PCT/ES02/00516	7 November 2002	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

**COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY (Continued)**  
(Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112; I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

PRIOR U.S. APPLICATIONS OR PCT INTERNATIONAL APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S. FOR BENEFIT UNDER 35 U.S.C. 120:

U.S. APPLICATIONS			STATUS (Check one)		
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	U.S. FILING DATE		PATENTED	PENDING	ABANDONED
PCT APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S.					
PCT APPLICATION NO.	PCT FILING DATE	U.S. SERIAL NUMBERS ASSIGNED (if any)			
PCT/ES02/00516	7 November 2002				

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (List name and registration number.) James D. Halsey, Jr., Reg. No. 22,729; Harry John Staas, 22,010; David M. Pitcher, 25,908; Gene W. Stockman, 21,021; John C. Garvey, 28,607; J. Randall Beckers, 30,358; James H. Marsh, Jr., 24,533; William F. Herbert, 31,024; Richard A. Gollhofer, 31,106; Carla M. Krivak, 30,956; Paul F. Daebeler, 35,852; Mark J. Henry, 36,162; Gene M. Garner, II, 34,172; Ilene D. Altman, 36,371; Michael D. Stein, 37,240; Paul I. Kravetz, 35,230; Gerald P. Joyce, III, 37,646; Stephen W. Barns, P-38,037; Debra Kolc Stephens, P-38211 and William M. Schertler, 35,348 (agent). Send correspondence to: STAAS & HALSEY, 700 Eleventh Street, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20001, and direct telephone calls to: (202) 434-1500.

201	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME <b>COSTA CLAVER</b>	FIRST GIVEN NAME <b>Jorge</b>	SECOND GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY <b>08328-ALELLA (Barcelona)</b>	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY <b>Spain</b> <i>ESX</i>	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP <b>Spain</b>
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS <b>Grega 9</b>	CITY <b>08328-ALELLA (Barcelona)</b>	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY <b>Spain</b>
202	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY
203	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201 <i>Jorge Costa Claver</i>	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 202	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 203
DATE July 6, 2004	DATE	DATE